

E-Read Texas:
TSLAC and Amigos,
DPLA and SimplyE

May 4, 2021


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Christine Peterson, Amigos

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E-Read Texas – An Overview

- E-book program for small to medium-sized public libraries
 - Primary goal: to help libraries offer e-books to their patrons
 - Separate from TexShare databases
 - 142 libraries participating to date
- Access to e-book collection of 6,500+ titles
- Access to SimplyE mobile app
 - TSLAC contracts Amigos to provide hosting and implementation
 - Libraries work with Amigos to add content

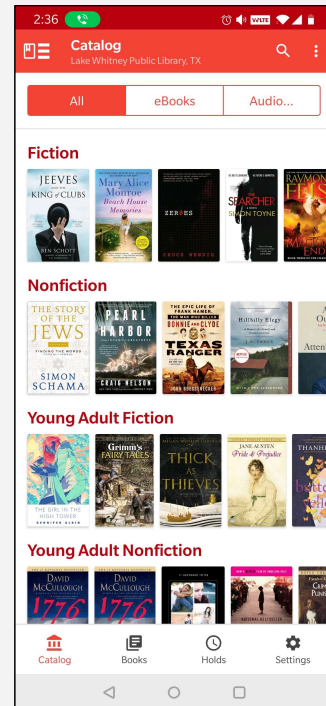


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Who Can Join?

- Public libraries serving a community of no more than 100,000 people
 - Based on Public Libraries Annual Report data
- Must submit an annual report to TSLAC each year



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Supported Systems

- Auto-Graphics VERSO
- Biblionix Apollo
- Book Systems Atrium
- Evergreen
- Koha
- Ill: Sierra & Polaris
- TLC CARLX
- SirsiDynix: Symphony & Horizon

Have another system?

Email simplye@amigos.org

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What does it cost?

- **No cost for public libraries serving less than 100,000 users**
 - SimplyE hosting fees are 100% paid by TSLAC
 - E-books are purchased by TSLAC
- **State agencies budget on 2-year cycle (biennium)**
 - Budget allocated in the state legislative session
 - Current biennium ends on Aug. 31, 2021
- **Cost model **could** change in the future**
 - Goal is to keep the program free for as many libraries as possible for as long as possible
 - No retroactive charges & will always have the option to drop out

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E-Read Texas Collection

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Collection Scope



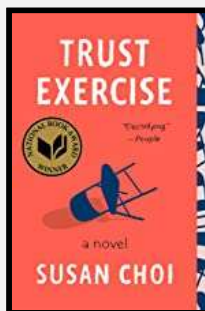
- Complement collections maintained by small and medium-sized public libraries in Texas
- Mostly adult fiction and popular non-fiction
- Collection development policy:
<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ldn/ebooks>
- TSLAC responsible for collection decisions
 - Support and input from the E-Read Texas Working Group: <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/texshare/ebooksworking.html>

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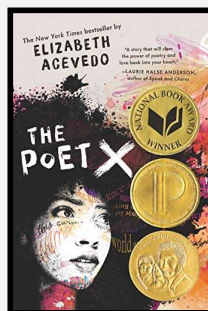
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What Content does E-Read Texas Offer?

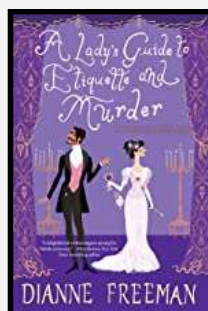
Over 6,500 titles and growing



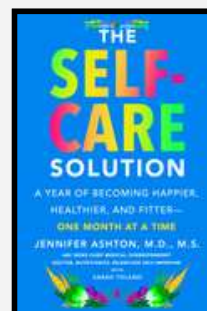
Award Winners



YA Fiction



Genre Fiction



Popular Non-Fiction



Popular Fiction

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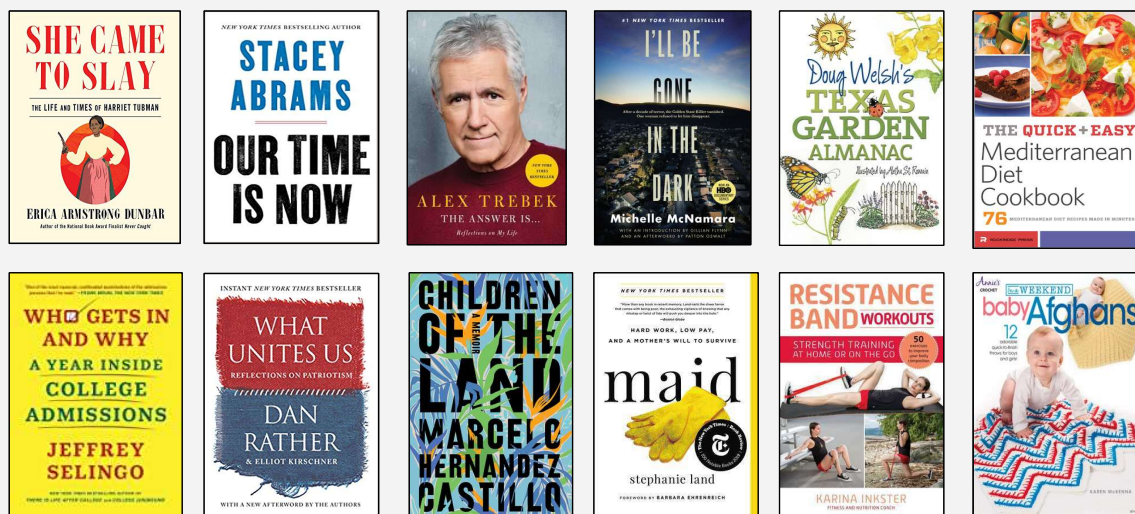
Fiction



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Non-Fiction



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Audiobooks



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100+ Publishers



Not included (for now)

Penguin
Random
House

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Providers and License Models

- **Biblioboard:** <https://e-readtx.biblioboard.com/home>
 - Perpetual Access
 - Unlimited simultaneous users
 - Available online AND via SimplyE
 - Catalog records available
- **Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)**
 - Multiple access models (1-year, 2-year, metered access, perpetual, open access)
 - Most are one simultaneous user
 - Available ONLY via SimplyE
 - No catalog records at this time

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Copies and Holds

Preferred: perpetual non-metered access with unlimited simultaneous use

But sometimes we can't avoid limits:

- **Initial copies**
 - Non-fiction: 2-5
 - Fiction: 2-10 copies
 - High-demand fiction is expected to be needed for book club titles and school assignments
- **Hold ratio**
 - 6 holds per copy for e-books until a maximum of 250 copies is purchased
 - After 250 copies of any single title are purchased, TSLAC may attempt to negotiate a statewide license with publishers

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Read Across Texas 2021

- 3 of the 4 books are available electronically for free to Texas residents from May 3 - June 25, 2021
- Full details available at: <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/readacrosstexas>



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SimplyE is an open source ebook & audiobook platform developed by libraries for libraries. It simplifies your patrons' users experience finding, borrowing and reading your library.

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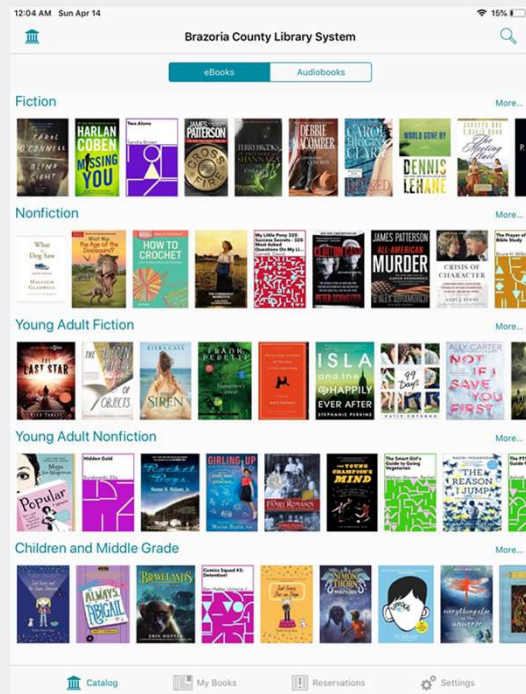
SimplyE Replaces This . . .



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With This . . .



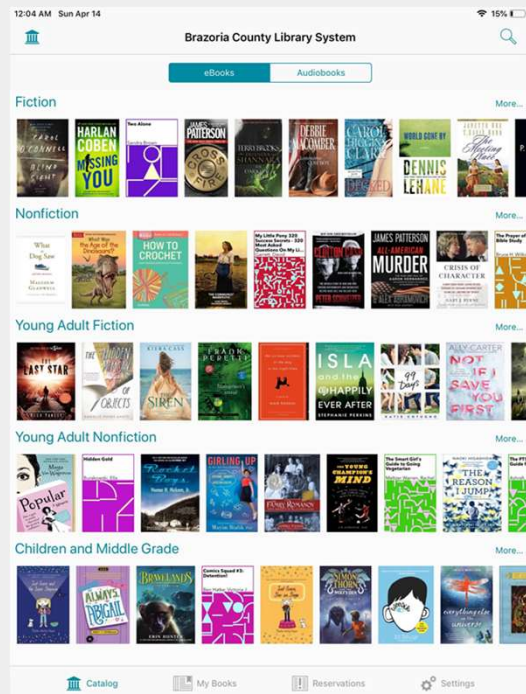
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Current Content Providers



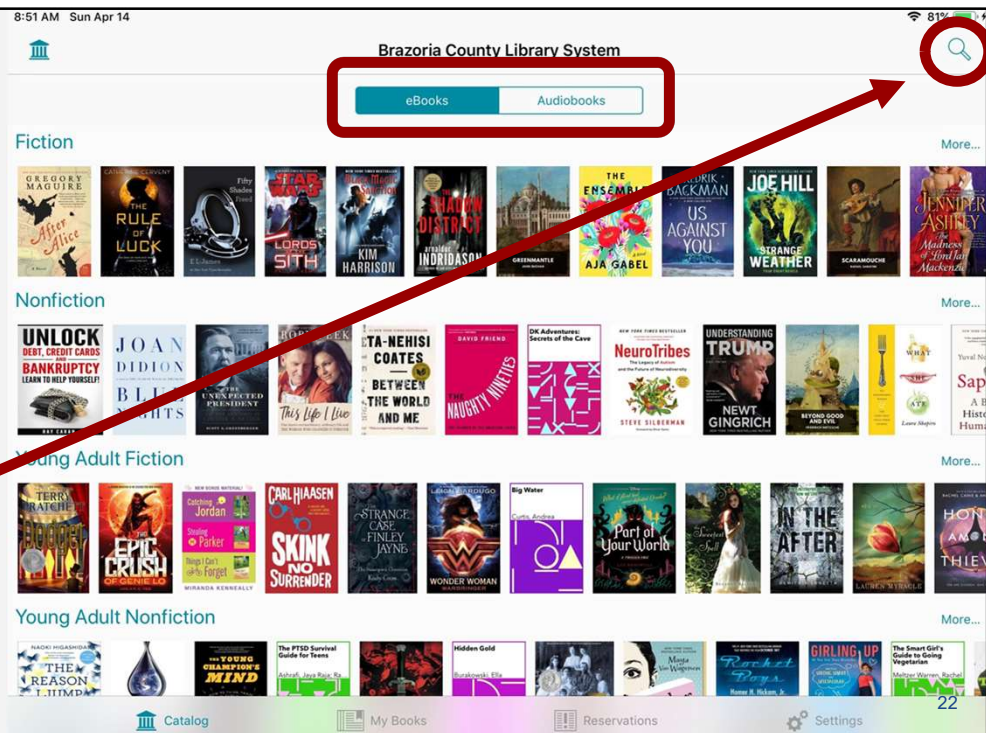
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SimplyE Demo



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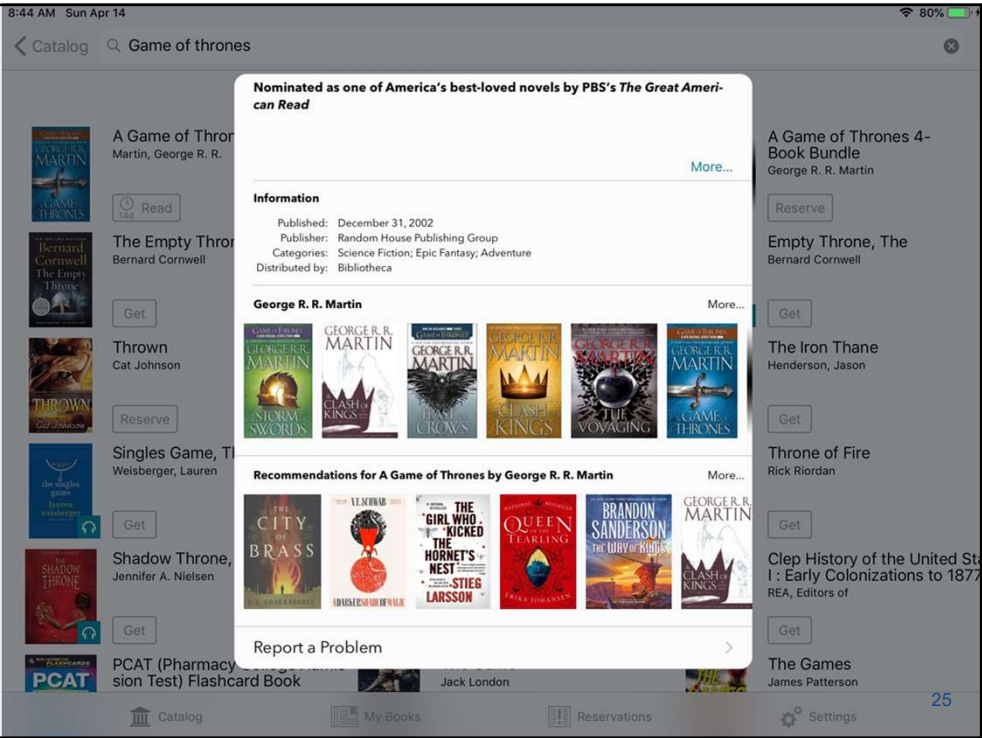
Search



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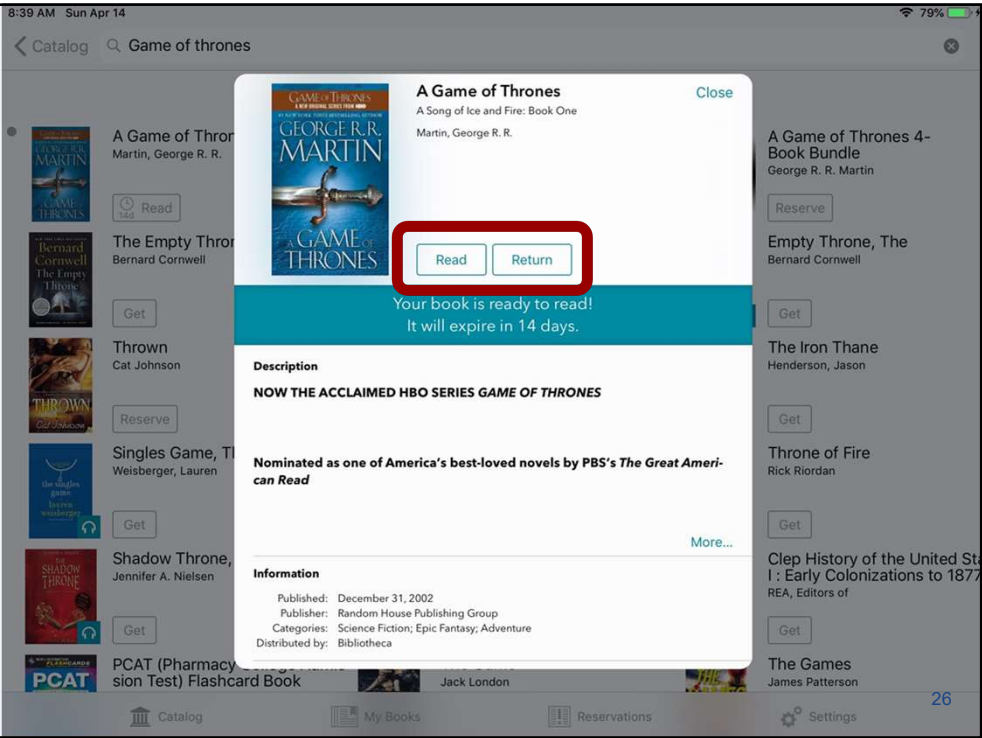


Novelist
Integration



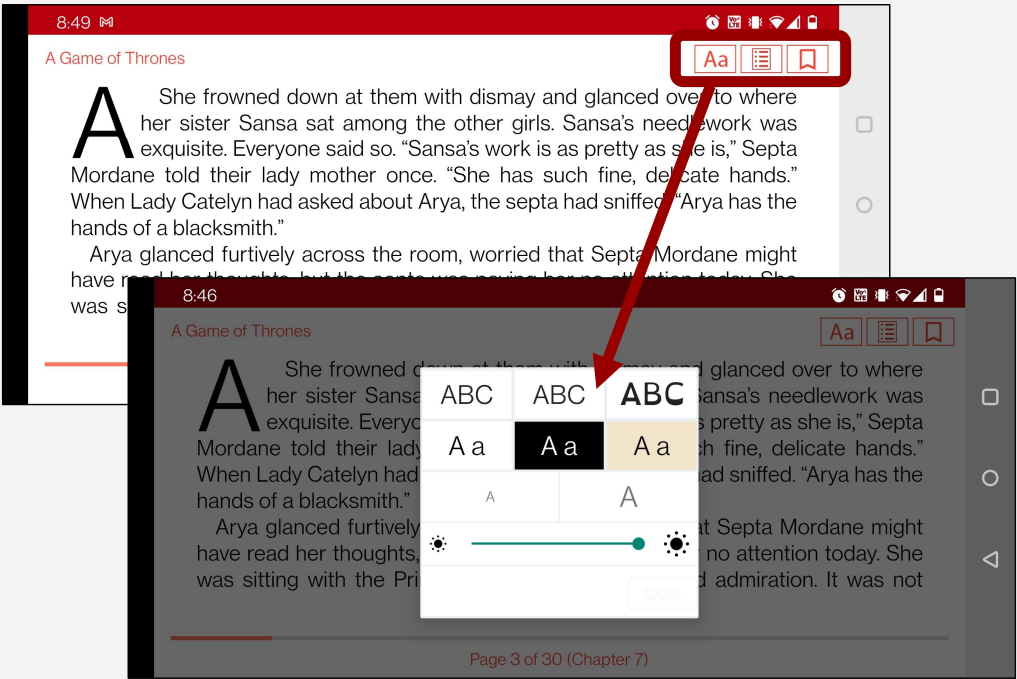
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Checkout

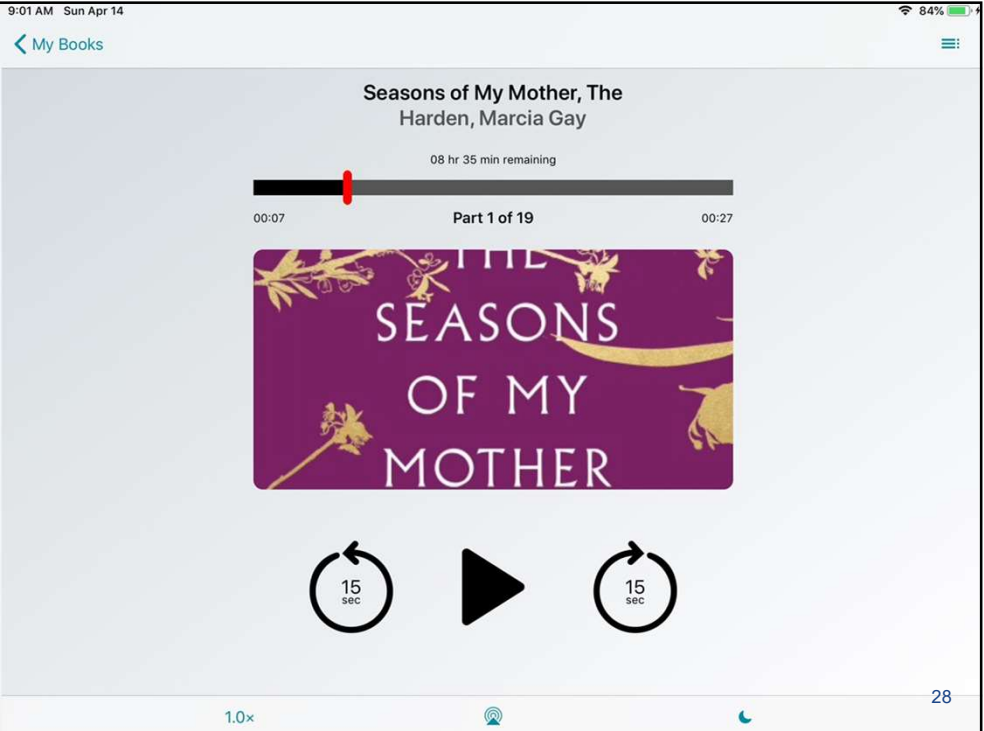


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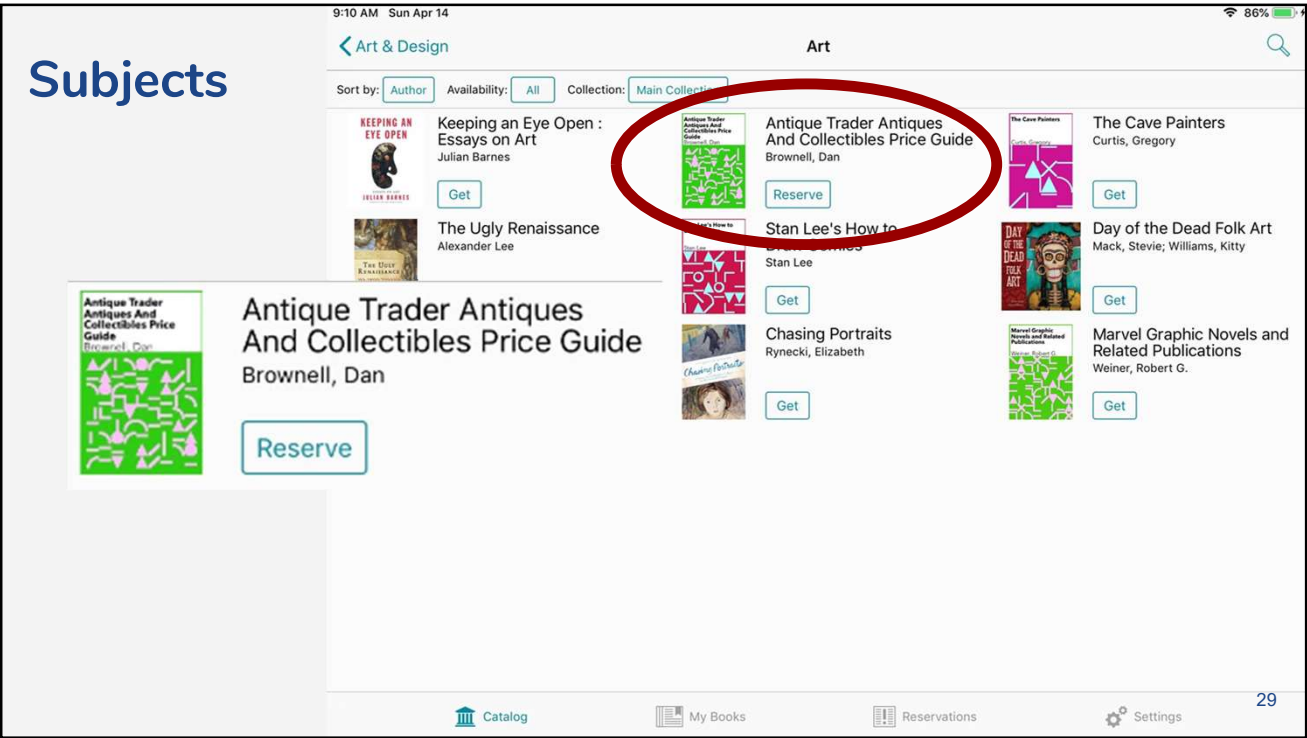
Read



Listen

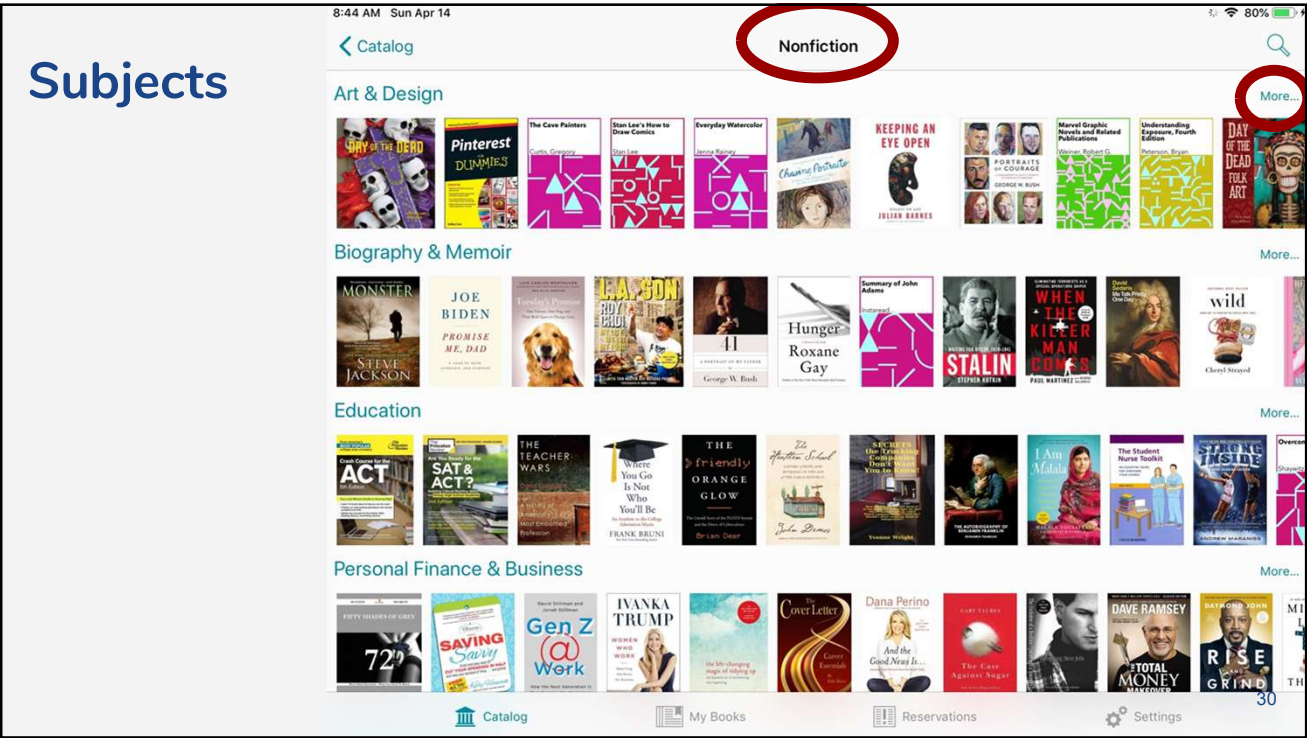


Subjects

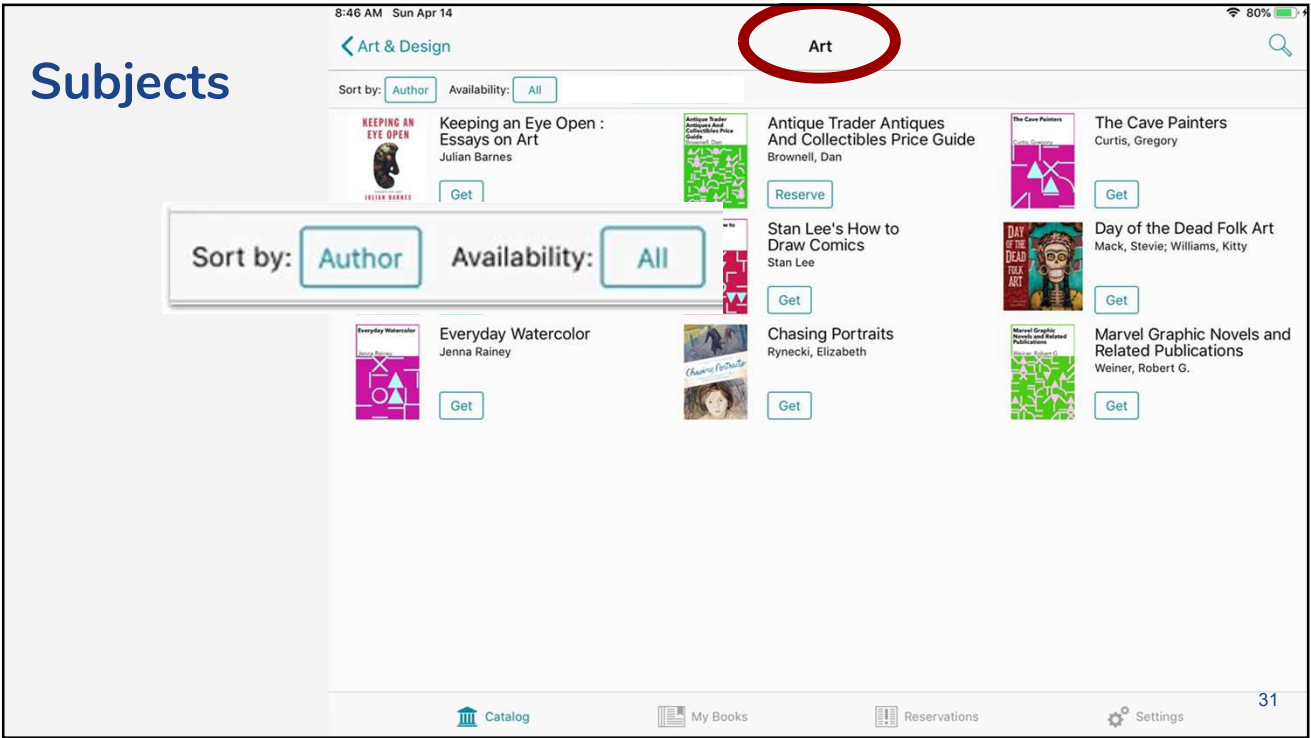


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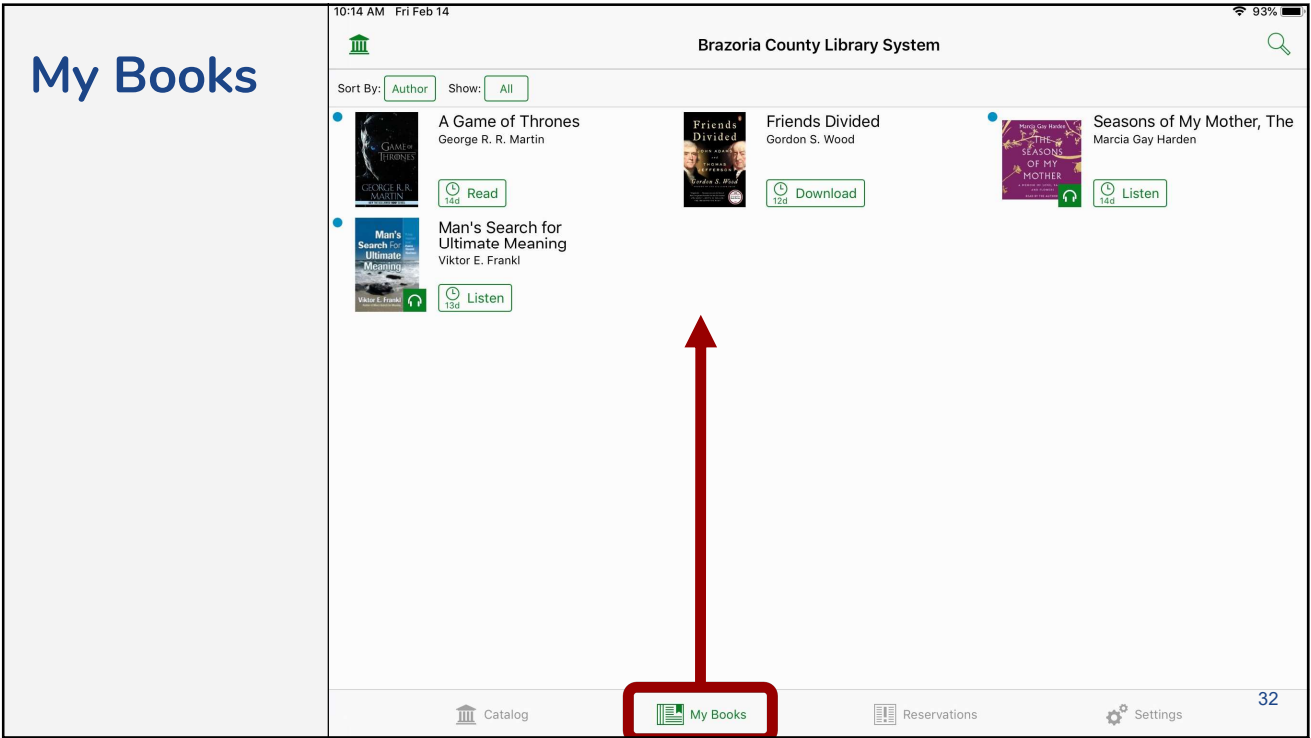
Subjects



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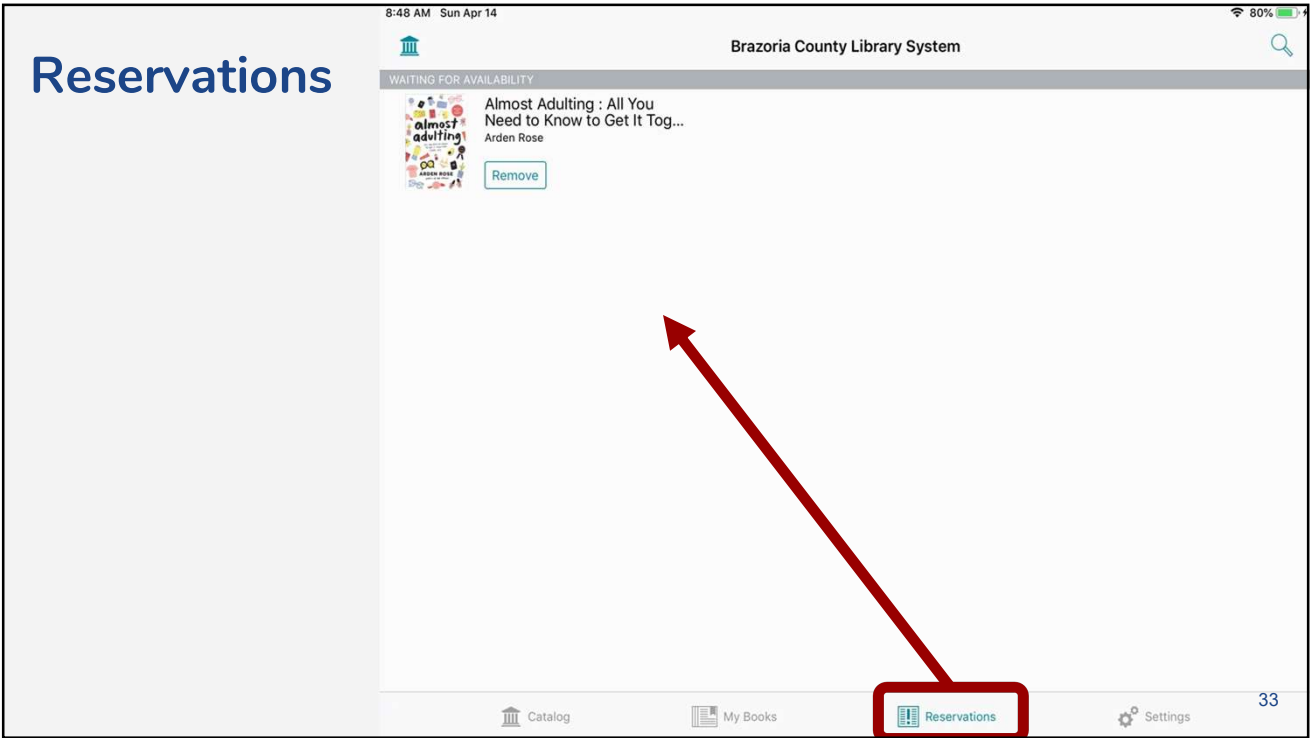


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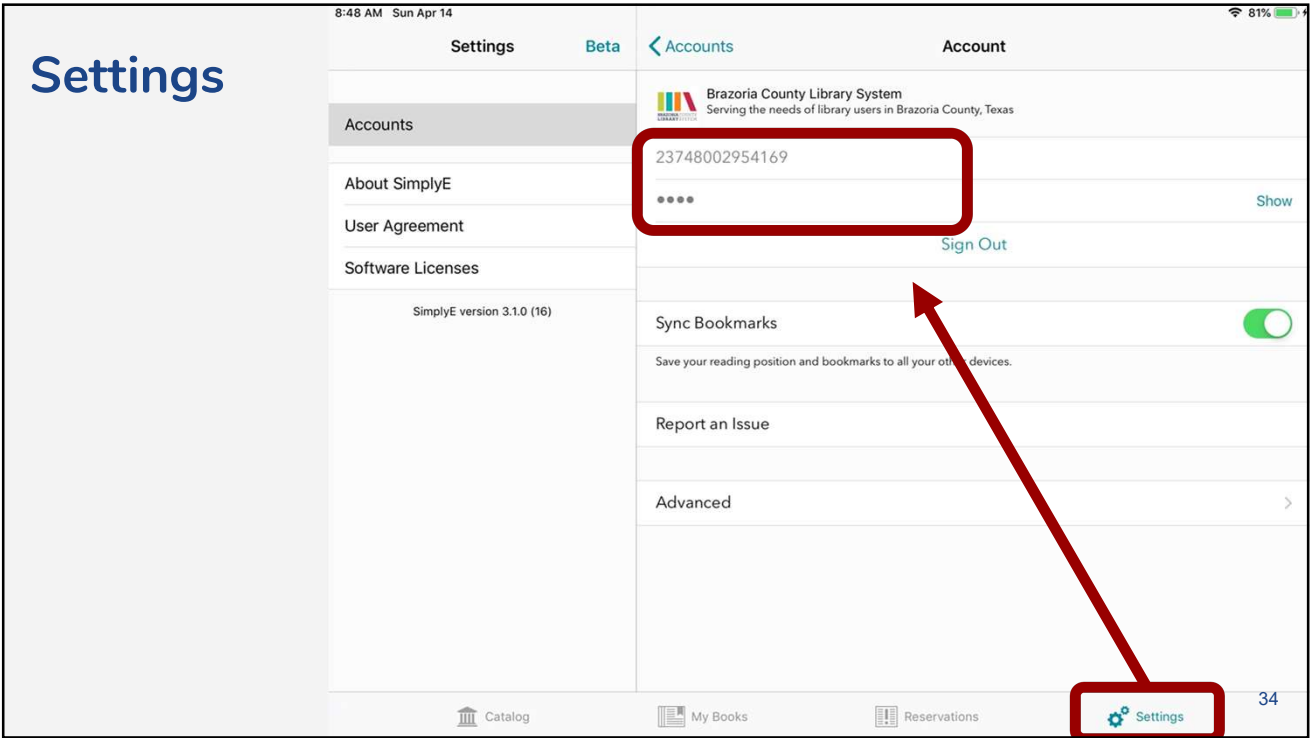
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Reservations



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Settings




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Details






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**TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION**

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[Home](#) >

E-Read Texas


E-Read Texas brings electronic books to Texans served by small community libraries in all parts of the state. E-Read Texas provides library e-books and an e-reader application that make it possible for all Texans served by public libraries to access e-books.

SimplyE

TSLAC has partnered with [Amigos Library Services](#) to implement [SimplyE](#), an e-book app, for smaller public libraries. SimplyE was developed by the New York Public Library in partnership with other major libraries in the nation in response to challenges patrons face in accessing e-books. As of May 2020, Amigos has implemented SimplyE for over 70 public libraries from all parts of Texas ([map](#)).

Contact (for more information)

- Amigos: simplye@amigos.org
- TSLAC: texshare@tsl.texas.gov



<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ldn/ebooks>

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<h2>How Do We Start?</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To simplye@amigos.org: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreement Library Information Form 135x135px logo 	<h3>E-READ TEXAS AGREEMENT</h3> <p>This Agreement is to record the understanding between AMIGOS LIBRARY SERVICES (Amigos) and _____ (Library) regarding the terms and conditions on which Amigos will provide SimplyE services to Library.</p> <p>Amigos Library Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will host and maintain Library's implementation of SimplyE; Will aid Library in configuring the service; Will communicate with e-resource vendors on Library's behalf; Will provide technical support for Library staff <p>Library:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gives Amigos the authority to communicate with their e-resource vendors on their behalf; Will aid Amigos in configuring the service; Will market and publicize the service to their patrons; Will share marketing materials with Amigos, TSLAC, and other libraries Will work with Amigos to troubleshoot and correct issues <p>This Agreement shall take effect on the latest signature date by authorized representatives of Amigos and Library and shall be renewed annually. This Agreement may be terminated on 30-day written notice by either party.</p>	37										
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Authorized signature For Library</td> <td>_____</td> <td>Miguel Figueroa For Amigos Library Services</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Title</td> <td>_____</td> <td>President and Chief Executive Officer</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date</td> <td>_____</td> <td>Date</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </table>		Authorized signature For Library	_____	Miguel Figueroa For Amigos Library Services	_____	Title	_____	President and Chief Executive Officer	_____	Date	_____
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Title	_____						
Date	_____						

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Amigos Staff

- **Chris Brown**
 - Configure
 - Test
 - Support
- **Christine Peterson**
 - Program Manager
- **Robert Williams**
 - Technical Analyst
- **Chauncy Garrett**
 - Server Admin



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Ongoing

- **Library Primary Contact(s):**
 - Require at least one person per library
 - Update us with changes
 - Simplye-users email list
 - Monthly statistics
 - Amigos' primary contact for E-Read Texas
- **Patron questions go to library's email address**
- **TSLAC continues to develop collection**
- **Free SimplyE training**

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Promotional Materials from TSLAC

- Printable bookmarks & flyers available at <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ldn/ebooks>
- Media kit – available on E-Read Texas website
 - Includes draft press release, template letter to elected officials, social media posts, and links to instructional materials



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SimplyE Materials

<https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/SIM/Customizable+Aids+to+Help+Patrons>

Customizable Aids to Help Patrons

Created by Christine Peterson, last modified on Aug 27, 2020

Below are documents that can be used as is, modified and customized by library staff to help patrons understand and use the SimplyE apps. They are the result of a 2020 grant awarded to Amigos Library Services from the Institute for Museum & Library Services through the Texas State Library & Archives Commission. Thanks go to not only these three organizations, but Marilyn Jacobs and Joy Markel, who created these documents for us, and Neil Esposito, who create the videos.

Please Read This First: Letter to Librarians (pptx)

- Communications Toolkit for Librarians (pptx)
- Getting Started (pptx)
- Palm Card (pptx)
- Poster (pptx)
- Social and Web Graphics
- Webinar Script (pptx)
- Welcome Flyer (pptx)
- Using and Troubleshooting SimplyE (pptx)
- Videos:
 - 31-second SimplyE Introduction
 - 101-second SimplyE Introduction

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Current & Future

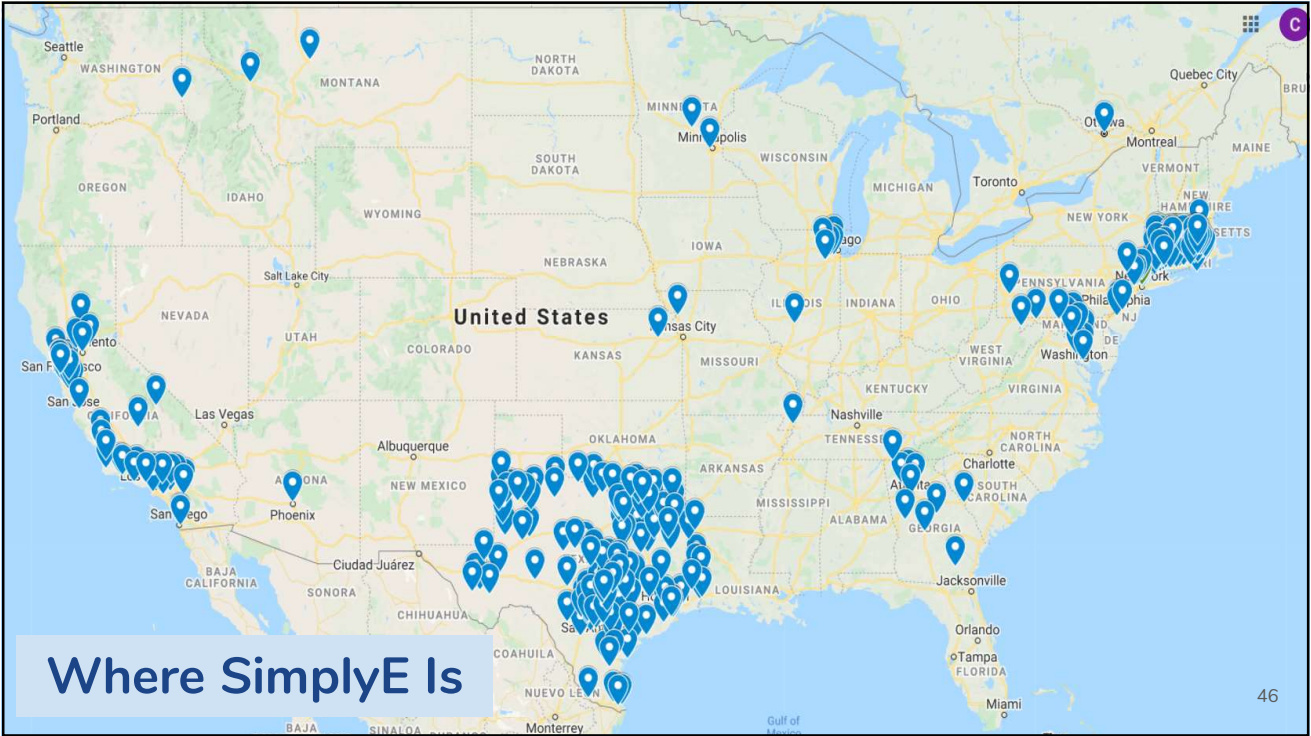
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**Burkburnett
#100!!**

**Congratulations,
Pamela Miller!!**

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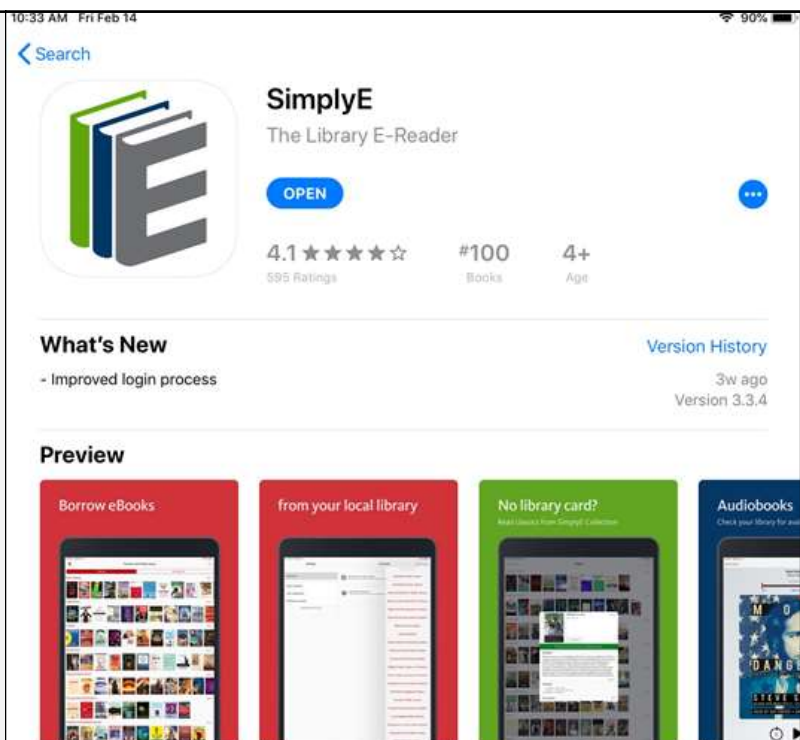
Future . . .

- PDF support
- Hoopla discussions
- Academic patrons
- Upload locally-created materials
- More content providers
 - ProQuest
 - Ebsco
 - Ingram
 - Gale

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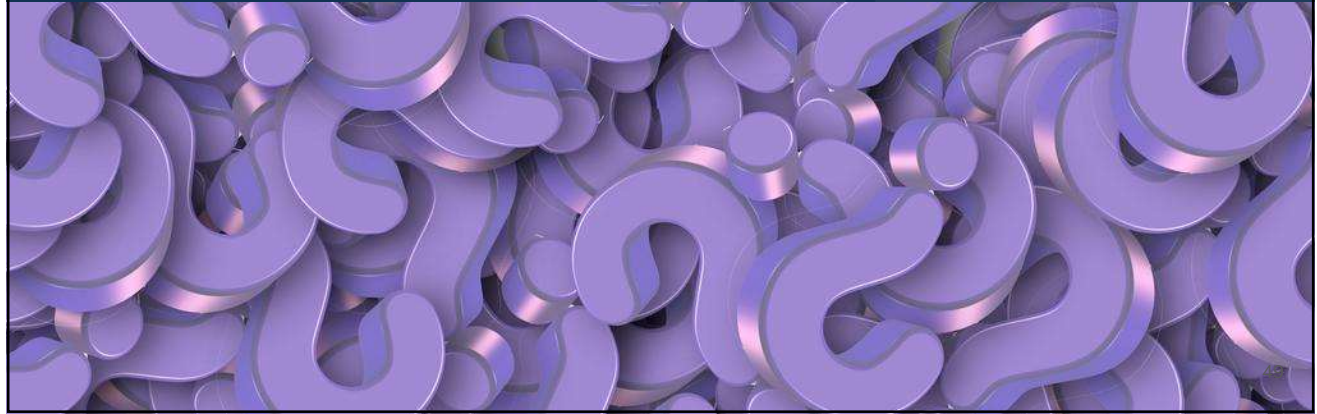
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Try It Yourself



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Q&A



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Next Steps

- **Ready now? Send to SimplyE@amigos.org:**
 - [Agreement](#)
 - [Library information form](#)
- **June 22nd, 11 am Central**
 - Webinar for current participants
 - Updates, advanced features, Q&A
- **More overview sessions coming . . .**

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Texas State Library & Amigos

Texas State Library

- Funding
- E-Read Texas collection
- Contact: Karen McElfresh,
kmcfresh@tsl.texas.gov
- <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ldn/ebooks>



TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION

Amigos Library Services

- SimplyE app
- Technical assistance
- Contact: Christine Peterson,
simplye@amigos.org
- <https://www.amigos.org/simplye>



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Thank You



Karen McElfresh
Texas State Library



Christine Peterson
Amigos Library Services

SimplyE@amigos.org
kmcfresh@tsl.texas.gov

This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services (Texas State Library and Archives Commission). (2020)

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